

## Prologue

How do you become a member of a notorious club like the Outlaws MC? And why in the world would you voluntarily join a club the police accuses of being a criminal organization – feared by the common man?

Thor Holm Hansen, although an avid motorcycle enthusiast ever since his early teens, was really not interested in becoming a biker, but became a member of the Outlaws MC when the Chicago chapter came to his aid when he was on the run from a devastating conviction by a corrupt judge in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The rest is history. One thing simply lead to another – without any rhyme or reason. Not even when he as a young man became president of a chapter.

Where white collars workers curse these damn, noisy Harleys, the dream of all true bikers is to ride free, with the wind in your hair. That was also Thore's dream. He loves bikes more than anything. Growing up just a few blocks from the factory, he was completely infatuated with Harley-Davidson. But he never thought it would lead him into a motorcycle club, subsequent bloody gang wars and imprisonment. Thor has survived a string of life threatening situations, and it's a wonder, even to himself, that he's still amongst us.

Thor never claimed to be his mother's best behaved child. He admits to living on the edge of the law and has spent about ten years in total behind bars, based mostly on prosecutorial lies, and orchestrated convictions In Absentia. But he has no intentions of trying to embellish the picture of himself with this book. Only set the record straight.

But behind the well-known face, behind all the stories that has been written about him for the past 30 or 40years, we find a more complex person. About why Thor became a high ranking member of the Outlaws MC. About why the media described him as a dangerous criminal. About why he's lived a life on the edge of self-destruction, and done some remarkable things most people wouldn't even dream about.

A person's life is formed in childhood and the way he is reared. That applies especially to Thor. He was often beaten by his alcoholic dad and even sent off to an orphanage. As a young man, Thor experienced brotherhood, safety and respect in the Outlaws. His adaptability and constant search for adventure fitted perfectly with becoming a member of the world's oldest motorcycle club.

Of course, he's thought about what life could've been without the Outlaws. Maybe he could've experienced success with his inventions and engineering skills. But he made a conscious choice and has no regrets. Thor has lived a life no other Norwegian can compare with, and he'd like to share this story with others. This book gives a unique insight into a biker clubs inner life. But it has never been Thor's intent to reveal everything that goes on behind closed doors at the clubhouse or to expose past acts by others that may be construed as criminal. That would be a monstrous violation of club rules. That's why a lot of history will follow him to the grave.

Thor's intent is to expose the erosion of the criminal justice system in the US over the past 30 years, and give a more nuanced picture of him than what's appeared in the headlines. At the same time, he'd like to tell his version of articles that has appeared in the media, such as when he was labeled Norway's answer to Al Capone.

Or when the headlines screamed that he was wanted in the US on several counts of rape, robbery, and murder, and was even jailed for a couple of weeks as a "precautionary measure", simply because of these articles.

Few if any the read the single-column article of the police retraction, buried on page 16 of the newspapers, stating that the accusations were proven to be false, as opposed to all of the front page headlines, proclaiming him as "The World's Most Dangerous Man".

He also wants to tell us about his music; and about Thor the impresario, the inventor, the automobile mechanic and auto body man.

I met Thor for the first time during the bloody, Nordic MC-war in the 90's when I was a crime reporter for the Norwegian TV2 news, and he was the president of the Outlaws MC-Europe. Since that time, we've been communicating regularly. Thor is the prime source for the contents of this book, in addition to written documentation and other sources confirming all of these incredible stories.

I've spoken to several of Thor's old brother's from the Outlaws MC both here in Norway and in the US, including former police investigators in Florida that knew him well. Everyone still remembers him as "Silver lips" or simply "Thor". But no Outlaw will make a public statement about either him or the club. The rules are very strict. One wrong word can cause the loss of their patch. But the club leadership understands that it means a lot for him to tell his story after being a member of Outlaws MC for over 40 years, and after winning his civil suit against the CIA in 2002 for having orchestrated his conviction In Absentia for possession of 37 gram cocaine back in 1981, while giving you an insight in to why he is still one of the most respected bikers both in Europe and the US, even by his former enemies, with his old club colors hanging in a lighted case on the clubhouse wall in Oslo, proclaiming him to be the "Founder of Outlaws MC – Europe".

Per Asle Rustad

July 2011

P.S. Since he's been known and appears in all official documents in the US ever since the age of 6 simply as Thor Hansen, that will be the name used throughout the English edition of this book, in order not be confused with the Norwegian edition where he is referred to either as Thore, Thore Henki, or simply Henki, which is what most people in Norway know him by.

Note: The phonetic pronunciation of his name in Norwegian is Too-Re.